## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

RAYMOND ZONG,

Plaintiff,

CIVIL ACTION

No. 2:13-cv-03256-JLS v.

MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED,

Defendant.

MERRILL LYNCH'S SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF ITS MOTION TO ENFORCE SETTLEMENT

Pursuant to the Court's request during the July 1, 2014 Hearing, Merrill Lynch submits the instant Supplemental Memorandum of Law to provide the Court with precedent concerning applicable law to the parties' binding settlement agreement.

In the Third Circuit, the law is clear: "[t]he validity and enforceability of settlement agreements is governed by state contract law." Shell's Disposal & Recycling, Inc. v. City of Lancaster, 504 F. App'x 194, 200 (3d Cir. 2012). See also Mazzella v. Koken, 739 A.2d 531, 536 (Pa. 1999) (holding that the enforceability of settlement agreements is governed by principles of contract law). The Court should apply the law of the state where all the transactions leading up to the litigation occurred. Shell's Disposal & Recycling, Inc., 504 F. App'x at 200 n. 10.

Here, all of the activities leading up to the parties' binding settlement agreement occurred in Pennsylvania. Therefore, Pennsylvania law applies to the settlement agreement.<sup>1</sup> Accordingly, for all of the reasons set forth herein, and for the reasons set forth in Merrill

Notably, Merrill Lynch's proposed settlement agreement also contained a provision noting that Pennsylvania law applied to the settlement.

Lynch's *Motion to Enforce Settlement*, Merrill Lynch respectfully requests that the Court grant its *Motion*.

Dated: July 3, 2014 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Karen P. Gaster

Karen P. Gaster, Esquire (PA ID No. 90988) Michael P. Avila, Esquire (PA ID No. 311348) RUBIN, FORTUNATO & HARBISON P.C. 10 South Leopard Road, Paoli, PA 19301 Tel. (610) 408-2017/2035 Attorneys for Defendant

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Karen P. Gaster, Esquire, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Supplemental Memorandum of Law was served via electronic mail and First Class Mail as follows:

> Raymond Zong 1355 Gwynedale Way Landsdale, PA 19446 csup2011@gmail.com

> > Pro Se Plaintiff

Dated: July 3, 2014	/s/ Karen P. Gaster
	Karen P. Gaster, Esq.